

REMARKS

The specification and claims have been carefully reviewed in the light of the Office Action to which this amendment is responsive. By this amendment, independent claims 1 and 11 have been amended to improve their form and to more clearly distinguish the prior art. An effort also has been made to correct the informalities noted on page 2 of the Office Action. In this regard, with respect to the Examiner's objection to claim 12, the term "said mounting portions" is believed to have proper antecedent basis in line 8 of claim 11.

Claims 1, 6, 7 and 12 have been rejected as being anticipated by Witmeyer; claims 3-5 have been rejected as being anticipated by Sanquist; and claims 2, 8-11, 13, and 14 have been rejected as being obvious over Witmeyer. Reconsideration of such rejections is respectfully requested. As brought out in the specification, applicant's invention relates to a rotary shooting target having impact plates fixedly mounted on a rotary support structure in laterally offset relation to each other for more challenging rapid fire practice in sequential shooting. The impact plates further are designed for simple manufacture and are mounted for minimizing harmful splash back of bullet fragments which can damage the stand and support structure of the rotary target and potentially injure persons on the firing line.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify the recited invention by specifically defining the lateral offset of the shooting targets in relation to the axis of the support structure axle. In Witmeyer, the target plates 100 are in radially aligned relation to each other without any lateral offset in a direction parallel to the axis of the support structure. Sanquist is not analogous to the present invention. Indeed, the pedals are rotatable, and hence, even is struck by a bullet they would simply individually rotate rather than cause rapid rotation of the support structure.

In dependent claim 7 is directed to a rotary shooting target in which the impact plate and support structure comprise a coplanar plate, which facilitates the prevention of harmful bullet fragment splash back, as set forth in applicant's specification. In Witmeyer, the support structure and plates comprise a plurality of members which have different thicknesses and which form protruding corners and joints which can create unpredictable deflection in the bullet splash back.

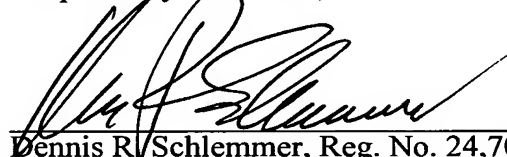
In re Appln. of *Scott A. Camp*
Application No. 10/802,281

Finally, independent claim 11 is specifically directed to the novel removable support structure mounting disclosed in the specification, which includes removable fasteners for connecting each impact plate support structure to a mounting hub. Witmeyer lacks any disclosure or suggestion of such removable connection. It is of course the prior art, and not hindsight viewing of applicant's invention, that must teach or suggest the invention.

Hence, each of the independent claims is believed to patentable distinguish over the prior art. Since the remaining claims all are in dependent form, for similar reasons they are believed to be allowable.

From the foregoing, it is believed that the claims as now presented all are directed to features which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art so as to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis R. Schlemmer, Reg. No. 24,703
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.
Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4900
180 North Stetson Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60601-6780
(312) 616-5600 (telephone)
(312) 616-5700 (facsimile)

Date: March 21, 2005

Amendment or ROA - Regular (Revised 11-23-04)